



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Amendment

LCO No. 7356

HB0712107356SR0

Offered by:
SEN. DEBICELLA, 21st Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7121

File No. 756

Cal. No. 569

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE AQUIFER PROTECTION AREA PROGRAM."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The State Treasurer shall
4 issue bonds and notes, in accordance with the provisions of section 3-
5 20 of the general statutes, in the sum of thirty million dollars, the
6 proceeds of which shall be deposited in the hazard mitigation and
7 floodplain management account established pursuant to section 22a-
8 27q of the general statutes. The full faith and credit of the state is
9 pledged for the payment of the interest on and principal of such bonds.
10 Such bonds shall be sold at not less than par and shall be issued so as
11 to mature at a time or times set by the State Bond Commission. The
12 proceeds from the sale of such bonds and notes shall be used to defray
13 the costs to the state required under the provisions of Chapter 476a of
14 the general statutes and shall be used exclusively for grants to
15 municipalities in accordance with section 25-68k of the general

16 statutes, as amended by this act.

17 Sec. 502. Section 25-68k of the general statutes is repealed and the
18 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

19 (a) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall establish
20 and administer a hazard mitigation and floodplain management grant
21 program to reimburse eligible applicants for costs incurred in the
22 reduction or elimination of long-term risks to human life,
23 infrastructure and property from natural hazards, including, but not
24 limited to, flooding, high winds and wildfires, and in the retention of
25 present capacity of designated floodplain areas to store and convey
26 flood waters. Each grant shall be in an amount equal to ninety per cent
27 of the costs to be incurred for such activities except that grants issued
28 under subsection (e) of this section shall be issued in such amounts as
29 set forth in subsection (e). Application for a grant shall be made in
30 writing to the commissioner in such form as the commissioner may
31 prescribe and shall include a description of the purpose, objectives and
32 budget of the activities to be funded by the grant. If the applicant is a
33 municipality, the chief executive officer of the municipality applying
34 for the grant may designate the town planner, the director of public
35 works, the police chief, the fire chief or the emergency management
36 director of such municipality as the agent to make the application.

37 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall establish,
38 by regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54, relative
39 priorities for the approval of grants under this section. Such priorities
40 may take into account the differing needs of eligible applicants, the
41 need for consistency and equity in the distribution of grant awards and
42 the extent to which particular projects may advance the purposes of
43 this section. The commissioner shall accord highest priority to projects
44 which involve (1) the preparation or revision of hazard mitigation
45 plans by municipalities, or (2) participation in the community rating
46 system of the National Flood Insurance Program. The commissioner
47 shall accord secondary priority to projects which involve (A) the
48 execution of hazard mitigation projects by municipalities in accordance

49 with approved hazard mitigation plans; or (B) administering and
50 providing financial assistance for the hazard mitigation and floodplain
51 management grant program established under this section. The
52 commissioner may establish further criteria for the approval of grants
53 under this section. Not later than February 1, 2005, the commissioner
54 shall develop and disseminate a pamphlet that describes the
55 evaluation process for grant applications under this section. In
56 awarding grants under this section, the commissioner shall consult
57 with any person the commissioner deems necessary.

58 (c) The commissioner shall authorize grant awards under this
59 section on or before July thirty-first and December thirty-first of each
60 fiscal year in which payment of a grant is to be made.

61 (d) The commissioner shall allocate not less than sixty per cent of
62 the moneys in the hazard mitigation and floodplain management
63 account in any fiscal year for grants under this section, except that the
64 commissioner shall allocate all of the moneys in the hazard mitigation
65 and floodplain management account that are deposited pursuant to
66 section 501 of this act in any fiscal year for grants under subsection (e).

67 (e) The commissioner shall use the proceeds of bonds issued
68 pursuant to section 501 of this act and deposited into the hazard
69 mitigation and floodplain management account for matching grants to
70 eligible municipalities in the following amounts: Not more than two
71 hundred fifty thousand dollars for a municipality with a population of
72 less than twenty-five thousand, not more than five hundred thousand
73 dollars for a municipality with a population of twenty-five thousand
74 or more but less than fifty thousand, and not more than one million
75 dollars for a municipality with a population of fifty thousand or more.
76 In order for a municipality to be eligible for a grant under this
77 subsection, a municipality shall contribute an amount equivalent to
78 one-third of the amount of the state grant. For the purposes of this
79 subsection, "population" for each municipality means the number
80 enumerated in the most recent federal decennial census."